

Established February, 1845.

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH

## Shipping

**Steamers.**

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**NOTICE.**

**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.**

**PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.**

 The Co.'s Steamship  
*Pelagos*  
Commandant BLAU  
will be despatched to  
**Kobe and YOKOHAMA** shortly after the  
arrival of the Mail Steamer from Europe.

**G. DE CHAMPEAUX,**  
*Agent.*


Hongkong, May 23, 1887. 101

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**NOTICE.**

**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.**

**PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.**

 **Commandant LARTIGU** will be despatched to  
**SHANGHAI** shortly after her arrival from  
Europe.

**G. DE CHAMPFRAUX,**  
*Agent.*

Hongkong, May 28, 1887. 10

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**Sailing Vessels.**

**FOR NEW YORK.**

The **S/S L.I.I. British Bark**  
*Antoinette.*

**Captain BUNSE**, will load her  
for the above Port, and will  
have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

SIEMSEN & Co.  
Hongkong, May 31, 1887. 10

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## Insurances.

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### NOTICE.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to accept Risks on First Class Godowns at per cent net premium per annum.

NORTON & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, May 19, 1881.

LUBOCK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed GENERAL AGENTS for the above Company are prepared to accept RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SCHERRE & Co.  
Hongkong, May 20, 1887.

**NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.**

**THE** Undersigned, AGENTS of the abovesaid Company, are authorized to Insure against **FIRE** at Current Rates.

**GILMAN & Co.**  
Hongkong, January 1, 1882.

**THE LONDON ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF  
*His Majesty King George The First.*  
A. D. 1720.

**THE** Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Corporation prepared to Grant Insurances as follows

*Marine Department.*  
Policies at current rates; payable either here, in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China and Australia.

*Fire Department.*  
Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.

*Life Department.*  
Policies issued for sums not exceeding \$5,000 at reduced rate

**HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.**  
Hongkong, July 25, 1872.

**LANCASHIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.**

**(FIRE AND LIFE.)**

**CAPITAL—TWO MILLIONS STERLING.**

**THE** Undersigned are preparing to

Owners against the Risk of Hulls,  
 Buildings and Contents therein,  
 Goods on board Vessels and of Bulk  
 Vessels in Harbour, at the usual Ter-  
 ms and Conditions.  
 Proposals for Life Assurances will be  
 received, and transmitted to the Director  
 for consideration.  
 If required, protection will be granted  
 first class Lives up to £1000 on a Single  
 Life.  
 For Rates of Premiums, forms of pro-  
 posals or any other information, apply to  
**ARNHOLD KARBURG & Co., Agents,**  
*Hongkong, Hongkong & Canton.*  
 Hongkong, January 4, 1887.

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**Not Responsible for Debts.**  
*Neither the Captain, the Agents,  
 Owners will be Responsible*

any left contracted by the Officers  
Crew of the following Vessels, dur-  
ing their stay in Hongkong Harbour:-

ANGEOU, British barque, Jas. H. Gre-  
-measenger's Maritimes.

EXWELL, American ship, Captain J.  
Barston.—Order.

GLENHORN, British steamer, Capt. J.  
G. Wright.—Adamsen, Bell & Co.

MOSEL, British steamer, Captain F.  
Titzeck.—Russell & Co.

SORTADO, American barque, Haswell  
Russell & Co.

TYRRO, British steamer, Captain D. M.  
Corkindale.—Adamsen, Bell & Co.

TONGRO, British ship, Captain S. Dar-  
-rington.—Order.

WACHUMER, American ship, Capt. C.  
Oakland.—Order.







The preparations for the celebration on June 21st, in Shanghai, are taking definite shape. The arch on the Bund is beginning to show quite prominently. It is a certain fact that the Executive Committee are not letting the grass grow under the feet of the Chinese at all. We feel confident from all appearances that when the day comes, nothing will be lacking, but that the Committee can confidently report. All things are now ready.

A THAMIAN in Twintia represents the market there as being very dull, the state of things contrasting strongly with former openings. He suggests that the paragraph about the steamer arrangements, extracted by us from our southern contemporaries, must have been written "to order," and that there would be a very good opening in Formosa for a strong opposition to the intended monopoly.—N. G. D. News.

Says the Shanghai Mercury of 31st ultimo: It is a rather rare occurrence for a fair stand-up fight to be recorded in Shanghai. Such an event did, however, come off yesterday morning. In the "two men" hours of the morning four individuals might have been seen wending their way to a quiet secluded nook not far from the Rifle Range. One of the "fighters" stood about 6 feet, the other about 5 feet 7 inches. It was almost a moral certainty that the "big 'un" would knock the other fellow out of time in very short order. He did not so, however, for at the call of time the big fellow rushed madly at his opponent hitting out wildly with both hands, but the little fellow stopped nimbly aside and planted his right square on the point of his opponent's nose, dealing him a severe blow. The big fellow dropped like a log and failed to respond to the call of time.

Private Owen Perry, of the Manchester Regiment, is in custody at Holywell, North Wales, awaiting trial to take him back to his regiment from where he deserted. Perry tells a strange story. He says he had served twelve years in the army, and obtained medals for the Egyptian and Afghan campaigns, the Khedive's Cross, in Egypt he decorated under a certain boulder stone on the highway between Mostyn and Grogan an immense amount of treasure lay hidden. He put the most implicit faith in his dream, for the regiment serving in Egypt. Perry deserted, made his way into Birmingham, and began searching for the expected gold. He made no secret of his dream, and accompanied by a large crowd of persons, he has been for some time hunting for the identical boulder stone which he believed contained the treasure. Many attempts were made, but were all in vain. The police were interested in the hunt, and eventually put a stop to it by arresting Perry as a deserter. The prisoner was acquainted with the district as a boy, which may have had something to do with his singular dream.

Writing on the 22nd April, the London correspondent of the N. G. D. News says: "The name of Johnson is so common the residents of Shanghai may possibly not have recognized an old fellow-townsman in the J. H. Johnson, who occupied so prominent a position in the recent past. Johnson was in May 1884, convicted of culpable homicide not amounting to murder by shooting a Chinaman at Lohai in Persia, and sentenced to penal servitude for life. Mr Justice Wood, before whom the case was tried, at first sentenced the prisoner to fourteen years' rigorous imprisonment, but on the counsel for the defence pointing out that the sentence was, under section 204 of the Penal Code, to be either penal servitude for life or imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years, the judge passed the sentence of penal servitude for life. As the offence of the prisoner was convicted was unpremeditated and more of the nature of a misadventure than a crime, and as he had suffered greatly in health since his conviction, it is hoped that His Excellency will see his way to exercise his prerogative of mercy in the case, more especially as the prisoner is a member of the Engineers' Association of Singapore, of which the prisoner is a member, are prepared to pay the prisoner's passage to Benang Island, and give him a chance of making a fresh start in life.

The Straits Times translates the following from a Netherlands India paper: "The idea of establishing a Chinese Bank in one of the chief towns of Java just started in that quarter, does not find favour among the European mercantile community there. The capital required amounts to one million of guilders. The sum fixed upon is not large. Should sufficient interest on that million be ensured, there is money enough among the Chinese in Java to raise even twenty millions. It is, however, only the first step in the direction of the project. It is not a commercial bank, but an institution for the sole benefit of Chinese. Self-help, reserve, self-reliance, and even contempt for other nationalities, appear to be the moving springs of the scheme on close scrutiny. From the standpoint of the European, the project is a giving security to revenue farmers. The bank would on these lines, will inevitably acquire increasing influence. At present the Chinese are the maintainers of the banks in Java. When once the scheme is carried out, the Chinese will be able to raise and lend money, and will be able to secure the Chinese bank secure millions of working capital, it will prove highly detrimental to the other institutions of the kind.

Mr. Huppo says that the Nanking silk dealers had roughly fixed the price for the new season's silk at \$17 the 100 ounces, but that the maintenance of the price is rounded on the account of the chilly weather having injured the silk prospects.

The Singapore Free Press says:—In these days, when the question of Colonial Defence is a burning one, it is well to draw attention to the progress being made in one very important direction—the provision of our Coasting Stations of trained Companies of Submarine Miners not liable to removal elsewhere. Under the name of the Eastern Battalion, Royal Engineers, a force is being organized at Hongkong, Singapore, Malacca, and Trincomalee, whose duty will be the defence of these Harbours by Submarine Mines. Natives are being enlisted at each of these stations, and already considerable numbers have been enrolled. To each part a strong body of specially trained and selected officers and non-commissioned officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers has been sent out, and under their native recruits are being drilled and instructed in the various duties of the Submarine Miner. So quickly have these preparations been proceeding, that probably few of us had any idea that we have already in our midst a valuable Native Force. We understand that the men selected for this service are of the highest calibre, and are accustomed from their infancy to work on the water, and therefore peculiarly well fitted for the chief of their new duties. Very liberal terms are offered. A man on enlistment receives \$10 monthly, and on being promoted to the rank of Native or Corporal his pay is increased to \$15; as Havildar, or Sergeant, to \$20; and as Havildar-Major or Sergeant-Major, to \$25. He enlists for five years, and can re-enlist for two further terms of five years each, on being recommended by his superiors. He receives a gratuity of twelve months' pay, and fifteen years' service of eighteen months' pay. Besides he is provided with uniform and quarters, and pension, if permanently injured in the service.

The following paragraph is from the London Financial News of April 27th:—

Mr. Henry Jenkins, of Liverpool, the promoter of various Jubilee enterprises, and notably of the late Jubilee Company, feeling aggrieved by our references to him in the issue of the 12th inst., recently applied to the Public Prosecutor for his aid for a criminal prosecution for libel against the Editor of the Financial News. The Public Prosecutor having invited us to make him a communication in writing on the subject, we have done so, and forwarded him through our solicitors, Messrs. Lewis and Lewis, a brief statement of the facts in the case, and yesterday Messrs. Lewis and Lewis received the following reply:—

Director of Public Prosecutions Department, Treasury, April 26th, 1897.  
Newspaper Libel and Registration Act, 1881, 44 and 45 Vic., c. 60, s. 3.  
Re the Financial News, Limited.  
Sir, I am, dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 20th April, 1897, in reply to my letter of the 19th to Mr. H. H. Marks and others, of the Financial News, Limited, and beg to inform you that I have declined to grant my aid under Section 3 of the above-mentioned Act, as requested. Messrs. Marks, Pritchard, Englefield & Co., Solicitors for Mr. Henry Jenkins, of Liverpool.

I am, dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
A. K. STEPHENSON.  
Messrs. Lewis and Lewis, Solicitors, Ely-place.

Thus Mr. Jenkins will have to forego the pleasure of meeting us on this occasion in a criminal court. But if Mr. Jenkins has really been wronged, and if he really desires to clear his name, he may still institute a civil action against us, and if he should win it he may recover substantial damages. Messrs. Lewis and Lewis will accept service of process on our behalf.

## SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.  
(Before His Honour Mr. A. J. Leach, Puisne Judge.)  
Monday, June 6.

APPEAL AGAINST GOVERNMENT VALUATOR'S ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTY.

This morning, Mr. J. D. Humphreys, of Messrs. A. S. Wilson & Co., proposed against the valuation placed by Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Government Valuator of Police and Licensing Rates, on the property situated at No. 38 and 40 Queen's Road Central, of which Mr. Humphreys is the lessee. Mr. Hooper had valued the premises at \$2,800, and Mr. Humphreys claims that \$2,400 is a reasonable and fair valuation.

Mr. A. B. Johnson, Crown Solicitor, appeared for the Government, and Mr. Hooper and the Hon. Mr. Justice Leach were also in Court. Mr. Humphreys, in stating his case, said that he paid his rent \$240, to Mr. Marsh in London in sterling, and he claimed to have that converted into dollars at 4s. 2d., which would give \$2,100 a year rent. He thought the best proof of the value of the property was what it would let for to a sound person, not to a person with whom there was the risk or possibility of him not paying, for speculative purposes. He did not know whether it would be shown to be a better value than he was, but he did not think that would be of much consequence, unless they showed what sort of tenant the person would be, and for what purpose he was to use the property. It seemed to him that if the rate of 4/2 was not adopted, that there was no other legal means of arriving at the valuation.

His Lordship—The valuation has nothing to do with what you pay by arrangement. Mr. Humphreys—Here the valuation was fixed by people who knew perfectly well the value of property. Mr. Marsh had for his agents, Messrs. Gilman & Co., and I believe his relative Mr. Lamont also acted in the value. He knew perfectly well what he was doing and would not let his property for one cent less than he could get. Your Lordship may rest assured that that was the very highest price he could receive, and more than he had received before. With regard to the rate of exchange, the rate I quoted is the rate at which the Government pays its servants. Your salaries are fixed in sterling in London, and the Government cannot consistently receive at one rate and pay at another. The sterling crown rents have since 1864 been remitted at the rate of 4/2.

His Lordship—Supposing you had \$240 and paid your rent here, what would it produce?

Mr. Humphreys—It would produce a different rent every month, said as you would say yearly. I don't see how you can use the rate of 4/2 as a basis for your rate. You rate annually, and exchange varies every day. It is generally believed that the gold is now greatly appreciated in value. I cannot conceive how it is possible to adopt the rate of 4/2 to pay out at and adopt another for receiving. It seems to me to be a paradox. I would also submit that \$2,800, the Government valuation, is more than the value of the property; and I prove it in this way. The less is only for

90 years, and as it is generally understood that there will be a progressive increase in the value of property, that circumstance has to be taken into consideration in fixing the rate. There can be no question that Mr. Marsh is a very good business man, that he knows the value of his property, that he entered into this lease with his eyes open, and with the idea of getting the utmost benefit from a safe tenant.

His Lordship—You pay \$240; well, at the rate of exchange say from 3/1 to 3/2 what would that produce?

Mr. Humphreys—Why not adopt the rate 2/6 or 2/7 for the rate? May be the rate of 2/6 or 2/7. If a very rich gold mine was discovered to-morrow the rate of exchange may go up to 4/10. Then Your Lordship can make me pay at 4/2.

His Lordship—How can I?

Mr. Humphreys—It is the rate adopted by the Government to pay its servants and receive its Crown rents.

His Lordship—I don't know anything about how the Government pays its servants. I have only got to do with the rate of exchange. In this ordinance no provision is made for payment in sterling.

Mr. Humphreys—But it seems to me that that clearly applies in my favour. I may say that 4/2 is very much lower than the rate of exchange, which is 4/2. As Your Lordship knows the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank uses 4/6. It was at one time in general use. People who had their accounts in sterling paid their servants at 4/6. We did so for years. Now our agreements are made in dollars, and that the rate does not rise. But you will find that respectable firms in this Colony pay their servants at 4/2, I think. The Bank does so now.

His Lordship—I take your argument to be to the effect that the rental has been converted at a figure too low, at a figure something like 3/1 or 3/2, when it should have been converted at 4/2.

Mr. Humphreys—I believe the Government Valuator does not say anything about the rate of exchange or what a person pays for his property. He says the valuation is what he puts upon it and not what is paid by the tenant, that is to say, whatever the tenant pays, he would feel himself perfectly justified, whether it was fixed in sterling or in dollars, in putting on a different valuation. If he thought the property was worth \$3,000 and the rent amounted to \$5,000 he would put the valuation down at \$3,000. The Ordinance says the gross annual rental, but I don't know if the valuations are always made up to that.

His Lordship—What the ordinance says is—The gross annual rental at which such a tenement may reasonably be expected to let for the ensuing year.

Mr. Humphreys—Well, then, a lease is taken into consideration, but not necessarily.

Mr. Humphreys—It seems to me that that would be the best way to make it. I may reasonably be expected by the Government Valuator to let for more than they were let. That was the law he took with me.

Mr. Johnson then addressed the Court. He said that the Government Valuator was not a judge, but a valuer, and that his duty was to value the property according to the Ordinance. In this case a notice was sent to Mr. Humphreys, who supplied the information that the houses were let as shops and dwelling houses; that he paid a rent of \$240, and that he had the valuation fixed at \$2,800, and that there was no other way of arriving at the value of the property.

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There was a question as to the jurisdiction of the Court.

Mr. Johnson said he was rather doubtful if these cases would appear. Three had been withdrawn.

ARRIVAL OF THE 'GLENGLADE' AT SINGAPORE.

We learn that the *Glenegade*, the second tea steamer from Hankow, this season, arrived at Singapore at midnight on Friday and sailed again at 6 o'clock on Saturday morning, after taking on board 1,200 tons of coal. The *Glenegade* has beaten the *Mayne* on the run from the Woorung Lightship to Singapore by 104 hours, and if this performance may be taken as a criterion of what she will do throughout the rest of the journey, there seems a strong probability of her beating the time of the *Mayne* for the whole journey by more than two days.

THE TEA STEAMERS IN THE RACE OF 1897.

The Straits Times of Monday, the 30th ultimo, says:—The steamer *Mayne*, of the China Shipping Mutual Steam Navigation Company's fleet, arrived in Singapore, at eight a.m. on Saturday, and left shortly before 1 p.m. the same day, having taken on board 700 tons of coal and 50 tons of tea (loaded in bulk) during her brief stay. The *Mayne* has a good record. Great interest is felt here in the movements of the *Mayne* on her first voyage homewards, as being one of the competitors in the race to London with the first of the new season's tea, of which she carries 2,400 tons. The *Mayne* has got such a good start, that the *Glenegade* has to leave no doubt as to which of the races will be home first, barring of course some unforeseen and unavoidable accident. The *Mayne* has proved herself to be a splendid boat, worthy of the very high anticipations which have been formed of her. The *Mayne*'s run from Woorung Bay is 6 days and 20 hours, a time which includes a stoppage caused by the fouling of some of the engines. The use of high speed, which the *Mayne* has been able to maintain throughout the voyage, has been a great help to her. The *Mayne*'s run from Woorung Bay is 6 days and 20 hours, a time which includes a stoppage caused by the fouling of some of the engines. The use of high speed, which the *Mayne* has been able to maintain throughout the voyage, has been a great help to her.

The movements of the *Glenegade* are thus recorded in the *Shanghai Mercury* of Saturday, the 28th ultimo:—This steamer left Hankow at 3.30 a.m. on the 28th inst., taking on board 1,200 tons of coal and 50 tons of tea. At 11.30 she passed Kinkiang; making an average speed from Kinkiang of 10.3 knots. At 5.45 p.m. she anchored 7 miles above Hun. The weather was very much improved, and the steamer was able to proceed at a speed of 10 knots. She passed Wuhu at 10.45 a.m. making an average speed from Wuhu of 11.2 knots to Nanking, which place she reached at 1.15 p.m. From there she made an average speed of 15.5 knots to Chinkiang, where she passed at 4.45 p.m. She anchored above North Tree at 10.20, making an average speed from Chinkiang of 14.3 knots. During the last 24 hours she had made an average speed of 15.5 knots. The wind decreased, with drizzle rain and thick weather. On the 28th, at 3.50 a.m., she proceeded again, arriving off Woorung at 8.20 a.m., where she stopped for a short time to take on board 700 tons of coal and 50 tons of tea. She then proceeded at a speed of 15.5 knots to Chinkiang, where she passed at 4.45 p.m. She anchored above North Tree at 10.20, making an average speed from Chinkiang of 14.3 knots. During the last 24 hours she had made an average speed of 15.5 knots. The wind decreased, with drizzle rain and thick weather. On the 28th, at 3.50 a.m., she proceeded again, arriving off Woorung at 8.20 a.m., where she stopped for a short time to take on board 700 tons of coal and 50 tons of tea. She then proceeded at a speed of 15.5 knots to Chinkiang, where she passed at 4.45 p.m. She anchored above North Tree at 10.20, making an average speed from Chinkiang of 14.3 knots. During the last 24 hours she had made an average speed of 15.5 knots. The wind decreased, with drizzle rain and thick weather. 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